

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at Page 4, lines 18-25 with the following amended paragraph:

Each of the different cells is separately screened by a suitable assay, and the results analyzed. Methods for assessing the interactions in biological systems, such as a Hill-based analysis (see, published International PCT application No. WO 01/44809 based on [[PCT n°]] PCT/FR00/03503, Dec, 2000, and the description herein), or a second order polynomial or other algorithm that describes the interaction between cells and biological agents to select variants that have a desired property are employed in the processes herein.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at Page 5, line 23 to Page 6, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

Reporter cells are infected with the titered viruses that encode the mutant genes. The mutant genes are expressed and read-out data from either biochemical or cell-based assays, while isolating each mutant/virus physically from the others (i.e. one-by-one analysis), are collected and analyzed. Serial dilution assays (i.e. a series of dilutions for each individual mutant/virus in the library) are used and the biochemical/cell-based assays are performed on each single dilution for each individual mutant/virus. Analysis of the serial dilution readout-data can be performed using any method of analysis that permits one-by-one comparisons. Hill-based analysis (see, published International PCT application No. WO 01/44809 based on [[PCT n°]] PCT/FR00/03503, Dec, 2000, and the description herein) are employed for analysis of the data.